

Message Text

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70

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-13 ISO-00 AGR-20

COME-00 L-03 SPC-03 AID-20 NSC-10 RSC-01 CIEP-02

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 PA-03 PRS-01

USIA-15 DRC-01 /192 W

----- 028249

R 211515Z SEP 73

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1756

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, UNCTAD

SUBJECT: SUGAR CONFERENCE: SECOND WEEK

REF: GENEVA 4914

BEGIN SUMMARY: SECOND WEEK OF CONFERENCE SAW NO PROGRESS
ON IMPORTANT ISSUES. CHAIRMAN HAS NOT YET MADE ANNOUNCEMENT
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OF HIS PROPOSALS ON QUOTAS AND PRICES, AND AS RESULT NO

DELEGATION WILLING TO CONCEDE ANYTHING ON EVEN MINOR ISSUES. EC'S INABILITY DECIDE ON FUTURE SUGAR POLICY APPARENTLY NOT SURPRISING TO MOST DELS, BUT PROVIDES A FURTHER DAMPER ON CONFERENCE MOOD. CHAIRMAN TOLD USDEL HE STILL HAS NOT RESOLVED PROBLEMS AMONG BIG EXPORTERS, AND WILL NOT MAKE ANY ANNOUNCEMENT BEFORE TUESDAY. UNTIL HE DOES, LITTLE PROGRESS IS POSSIBLE.
END SUMMARY

1. CONFERENCE IS, WITH MINOR EXCEPTIONS, VIRTUALLY AT STALEMATE. CANADIANS, IN ABSENCE CHAIRMAN THEIR DEL, UNWILLING CONCEDE ON EVEN SMALLEST POINTS. THEIR CATEGORICAL STATEMENT THAT "PURCHASE COMMITMENT" PROPOSAL BY CUBA UNACCEPTABLE PROVOKED REACTION THAT LATTER UNWILLING TO DISCUSS SUPPLY COMMITMENT EITHER. BOTH HAVE SINCE BACKED DOWN, BUT DISCUSSIONS HAVE BEEN DESULTORY. CANADIANS ARE IN GENERALLY BAD ODOR, AND JAPANESE, AS OTHER MAJOR IMPORTER, FELT IT NECESSARY DISASSOCIATE ITSELF FROM "BRUTAL" POSITION TAKEN BY CANADIANS.

3. BY MID-WEEK, ECONCON CHAIRMAN LAJOUS FELT IT NECESSARY CALL MEETING IN ATTEMPT PUMP SOME ADRENALIN INTO CONFERENCE. MEETING PROVOKED SOME HEAT, BUT FAILED TO MOVE CONFERENCE OFF DIME. AT LUNCH WITH MEMBER USDEL, JONES-PARRY ASKED OUR VIEWS ON PRICES, AND USDEL SAID WE HOPED PRICE RANGE WOULD CONSTITUTE INCENTIVE TO PRODUCTION. JONES-PARRY WHO HAS BEEN IN CONSIDERABLE PAIN FROM NERVE INFLAMMATION, EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR CONSTRUCTIVE PARTICIPATION OF USDEL.

4. ADMIN COMITE MET THREE TIMES AND CONCENTRATED DISCUSSION ON ARTICLES 9, 67, 70 AND 71 ON WHICH US HAD SUBMITTED AMENDMENTS. ON ART 9 (VOTING) NO FIRM OBJECTIONS WERE RAISED TO US PROPOSAL OF SPECIFYING BASIS FOR DISTRIBUTING VOTES IN AGREEMENT ITSELF AND NOT LEAVING MATTER FOR PROCEDURAL RULES. PRECISE LANGUAGE STILL BEING WORKED OUT, AND ACTUAL NUMBERS (TOTAL, MAXIMUM, AND MINIMUM VOTES) ARE IN BRACKETS PENDING DECISIONS ELSEWHERE IN CONFERENCE. SMALL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DRAFTING GROUP COMPOSED OF AUSTRALIA, CUBA, GUATEMALA, JAPAN, USSR AND US DELS HAS BEEN SET UP TO SEEK RESOLVE REMAINING DIFFERENCES ON ARTS 67, 70 AND 71. ON THURSDAY, COMITE PROVISIONALLY ADOPTED TEXTS OF SEVERAL NON-CONTENTIOUS ARTICLES. WITH HELP OF USDEL, SECRETARIAT HAS FINALLY COMPLETED PROPOSED TEXTS OF FINAL PROVISIONS ON RATIFICATION, ENTRY-INTO-FORCE ACCESSION, RESERVATIONS, ETC., WHICH SHOULD BE AVAILABLE SOON

FOR DISCUSSION BY COMITE. MAJOR EVENT OF WEEK IN
COMITE WAS MOVE BY USSR TO WITHDRAW ITS AMENDMENT ON
DEFINITION OF "DEVELOPING COUNTRY" (COUNTRY SO DESIGNATED
ACCORDING TO "UN CLASSIFICATION") AND SUBSTITUTE PROPOSAL
TO DELETE ENTIRELY DEFINITIONS OF BOTH DEVELOPED AND
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES FROM AGREEMENT ON GROUNDS THIS
BASICALLY POLITICAL ISSUE AND NOT MATTER FOR UNCTAD FORUM.
AT LEAST 15 DELS INCLUDING SOME EES JUMPED ON SOV
SUGGESTION, EXPRESSING OPPOSITION AND DISMAY OVER CON-
FUSION THAT INCLUDING NO DEFINITION OF LDCS WOULD CAUSE
IN AGREEMENT, PARTICULARLY SINCE A PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF
AGREEMENT IS TO BENEFIT LDCS. SOVS DID NOT RESPOND TO
THESE INTERVENTIONS AND NO ONE CAN EXPLAIN WHY THEY
CHOSE TO PUT FORWARD THIS DRASTIC PROPOSAL ON SUCH AN
OBVIOUSLY SENSITIVE ISSUE.

5. JAPANESE DEL AT ECONCOM RAISED IDEA OF "PACKAGE DEAL"
TO RESOLVE MAJOR ISSUES, E.G. PRICES, QUOTAS, SUPPLY AND
PURCHASE COMMITMENTS. IN CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES, USDEL
BELIEVES THAT ONLY SUCH A PACKAGE CAN MOVE CONFERENCE OFF
DEAD CENTER. BASSIN

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Message Attributes

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